

II. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

---Please amend the second paragraph on page 4 as follows.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The copolymers of the present invention may be graft, alternating or block copolymers, or mixtures thereof. Suitable copolymers which have retentive properties are described in the following references:

- J.Wen, G. L. Wilkes, Polymer Bulletin, 1996, 37, 51-57
- J. Hazziza-Laskar, G. Helary, G. Sauvet, J. Appl. Polym. Sci., 1995, 58, 77-84
- Tezuka et. al., Macromolecules, 1995, 28(24), 8251-8258
- P. Schofield, C. Cohen, C. K. Ober, Polymer Gels & Networks, 1998, 6(3-4), 291-300
- T. Furuzuno, K. Seki, A. Kishida, T. Ohshige, K. Waki, I. Maruyama, M. Akashi, J. Appl. Polym. Sci., 1996, 59, 1059-1065
- D. Spridon, L. Panaitescu, D. Ursu, C. V. Uglea, I. Popa, R. M. Ottenbrite, Polymer International, 1997, 43, 175-181
- J. C. Schmidhauser, K. L. Longley, J. Appl. Polym. Sci., 1990, 39, 2083-2096
- L. Lestel, H. Cheradame, S. Boileau, Polymer, 1990, 31, 1154-1158
- G. E. Hahn, K. D. Klein, I. Yilgor, C. Could; In Silicone-Containing Polymers; Editor, R.G. Jones; The Royal Society of Chemistry: Cambridge, UK; 1995; pp 81-87
- M. A. Sherman, J. P. Kennedy, J. Appl. Polym. Sci., 1998, 30, 1891-1899

---Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 4-5, which begins at the bottom of page 4, as follows.

Examples of the retentive components of such copolymers are:

- polyvinylacetate (PVA) polymers
- polyurethane polymers and ionomers

terephthalate polymers

styrene-acrylonitrile (SAN)/acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (ABS) copolymers

vinylidene polymers

polybutadiene

epoxy polymers

amide polymers

Bisphenol polymers

Bisphenol A (BPA) – epichlorohydrin polymers

poly (methyl) methacrylate polymers

poly (methacrylic acid) polymers

cellulose polymers

polyethylene vinyl alcohol polymers

polyethylene glycol (PEG)

functionalised silane and siloxane polymers

polymers (e.g. silane and siloxane polymers) comprising isoprene, butadiene, lactone, amino, terephthalate, amino acid, heterocyclic, hydride (SiH), thiol or epoxy functionalities,

and mixtures thereof, provided that ~~they~~ the copolymers also comprise the required flexible components (as defined above).

---Please add the following paragraph on page 5 after the paragraph bridging pages 4-5.

The flexible component may, for example, be selected from the group including, but not limited to, any of the following:

polyacrylate

polybutylene

polybutadiene

polydienes

polyisoprene

polyethylene

polyvinylethers

polyvinylchloride

polyvinylidene fluoride

polytetrafluoroethylene

polyalkenes

polyalkanes

polysiloxanes

polysilanes

polysilazanes